

in connection with foreign travel shall be used solely for lodging, food, and related expenses and it is the responsibility of the Member of the Committee or staff of the Committee receiving such an allowance to return to the United States Government that portion of the allowance received which is not actually used for necessary lodging, food, and related expenses. (Rule XXXIX, Paragraph 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

#### TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the lives lost during the tragic earthquake that shook southern Turkey and northwestern Syria and to reaffirm the American commitment to provide assistance to recover from this disaster. In the early morning hours of February 6, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake, one of the strongest quakes in the region's history, struck near the city of Gaziantep, causing the deaths of thousands of innocent individuals and wreaking disaster and destruction on many communities that were already struggling from the effects of war.

I am devastated by the growing loss of life and injuries in Turkey and Syria. As of today, the earthquake has left more than 20,000 dead in Turkey and Syria and over 50,000 injured. Rescue missions continue to search for scores more that remain missing. In this great time of sadness for their countries, the United States will stand in humanitarian solidarity to provide relief, recovery, and efforts to build back even stronger.

Within hours, the U.S. Agency for International Development activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team—DART—to lead the U.S. Government's humanitarian response to the disaster. The DART is working closely with Turkish authorities on the frontlines and will continue provide search and rescue support and identify priority humanitarian needs in the days to come.

Globally, the outpouring of support in resources and rescue workers has been encouraging. The White Helmets, a volunteer organization that has assisted in the rescue of the many civilians suffering from attacks by the Syrian regime, has sprung into action. The internationally renowned group is currently working around the clock and has sent out over 300 search and rescue teams—several times their normal operating capacity.

Over 20 NATO allies and partners have provided more than 1,400 emergency response personnel, including firefighters, engineers, search-and-rescue and medical teams. I am heartened by the generosity of individuals, countries, and organizations, which include the Catholic Relief Services—CRS—a humanitarian agency based in Baltimore, MD. CRS is supporting emergency relief efforts by local partners in Turkey and Syria, including partner organizations Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria, and Caritas Anatolia.

Today, we honor those lost and injured in this week's disaster. We will

continue to provide rescue support, and send our thoughts and prayers to the people of Turkey and Syria.

#### REMEMBERING ROBERT "BOBBY" SILVERSTEIN

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the life of Robert "Bobby" Silverstein, a leader in the disability rights movement, who passed away on November 17, 2022.

Bobby was a true public servant having worked in the Labor Department, the Health, Education and Welfare Department, the House of Representatives, and the Senate, including as staff director and chief counsel for the Subcommittee on Disability Policy of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources—now the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. He was known as the "behind-the-scenes architect" of the Americans with Disabilities Act and served as a consensus-builder making bipartisan disability legislation a reality.

Bobby changed the lives of millions of people with disabilities by his work in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability. I join former chairs of the HELP Committee in honoring his contributions to the disability and civil rights movement.

Bobby was steadfast in his many roles fighting for disability rights after his time working in Congress. He will be remembered for the significant impacts his work made to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Finally, all who worked with Bobby tell of how kind and humble he was. He was beloved by all who knew him.

May the memory of Bobby Silverstein be for a blessing.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### OHIO UNIVERSITY SCRIPPS CENTENNIAL

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the Ohio University E.W. Scripps School of Journalism on their centennial. One hundred years ago, Scripps first opened its doors and, since then, has shaped generations of journalists and reporters and writers. The E.W. Scripps School of Journalism is one of our Nation's best journalism schools and provides a unique experience where faculty empower students to think critically, write clearly, and expand their horizons. The curriculum extends far outside of the classroom with student newspapers, internship opportunities, and student-run media platforms to ensure that students have the skills necessary to excel after graduation.

Scripps students go on to do great things. Scripps alums are leading their industries, whether it is broadcast, print or digital media. They are producing award-winning content, reporting at the national, State, and local level and delivering the stories that

matter most to Ohioans and Americans. Scripps journalists tell the stories that impact our daily lives and dig for those that might not be told otherwise. They are tenacious and dedicated in their pursuit of knowledge. They ask tough questions, challenge conventional wisdom, and connect us all with our communities and our world. That wouldn't be possible without their time at Ohio University.

Most importantly, Scripps is rooted in the values essential for a democratic society, the values of truth, accuracy, and independence. I can't think of better values to instill in the next generation of journalists.

In recent years, we have seen attacks on the free press, making it even more important that the journalists of today and tomorrow are prepared to fight for truth and transparency. A free, independent press is vital to our democracy. It is enshrined in our Constitution. And Scripps journalists uphold it daily. To the faculty and staff at Scripps, the students, and the alumni: Thank you for all you do to make Scripps the institution what it is today, an institution respected around the world for its ability to create the leaders of tomorrow. Thank you for your commitment to journalism and dedication to the college. And thank you to Dr. Hugh Sherman and Dean Scott Titsworth for your leadership.

I am proud that Scripps calls Ohio home, and I look forward to its next hundred years. Congratulations on the centennial.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 185. An act to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 299. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 185. An act to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with